THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Assam Rifles have already vacated an area of approximately 37 acres, including 60 buildings of Kangla Fort premises. Some of the Assam Rifles personnel with families have also shifted to temporary alternate accommodation. The State Government has also been conveyed that the remaining portion of the Unit would be shifted as soon as alternate accommodation with necessary infrastructure at an alternate site becomes ready for occupation.

Inter-State Boundary Disputes

1705. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Inter-States boundary disputes are pending for settlement;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to settle these disputes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The State Governments of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala, Punjab and Haryana have sought the Central Government's intervention in helping to settle their boundary disputes. While the Maharashtra-Karnataka-Kerala border disputes relate to conflicting territorial claims over certain border villages, the Punjab-Haryana border dispute relates to transfer of Chandigarh to Punjab and some Hindi-speaking areas from Punjab to Haryana in lieu of Chandigarh.

It is essentially for the State Governments themselves to sort out the disputes either bilaterally or through various forms. The Central Government's stand has been that these disputes can be resolved only with the willing cooperation of the State Governments concerned and towards this end the Central Government would extent all possible assistance to the States concerned.

Wireless Loop Technology for Cellular Telephones

1706. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications has completed major critical tests in Wireless Loop Technology as compared to the existing "TDMA" and "GSM" technologies being used in the cellular phones;

(b) if so, the details theeof; name of the company which has developed the technology and whether the Department would be able to meet the "Telephone-on-demand scheme" after modernising the net work in the country; and

(c) the present cost of MINL single connection and the likely cost under Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) connection and whether technicians trained by the concerned foreign company for this purpose are available in the country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) and (b) Sir, Department of Telecommunications is conducting presently field trial of Code Division Multiple Access Wireless local loop technology for 1000 subscribers capacity system supplied by M/s. Qualcomm, USA in Delhi. Modernising and expanding the network in the country would help to meet the telephone on demand subject to the availability of resources.

(c) The present cost of MTNL single connection varies from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 20,000. Likely cost under Code Division Multiple Access connection is difficult to assess at this stage without large scale deployment. Trained engineers are available in the country.